GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2624
ANSWERED ON:10.08.2005
CENTRAL ASSISTANCE FOR SPORTS INFRASTRUCTURE
Mahajan Smt. Sumitra

Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the central assistance provided for the sports infrastructure has been stopped ;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the Government proposes to restore Central Assistance or the same amount will be made available separately to the States for this purpose ;

(d) if so, the details thereof ;

(e) the reasons for slow progress of the construction work of Central Regional Centre of Sports Authority of India and the time by when it is likely to be completed ;

(f) whether the Sports Authority of India provided the services of trainers trained in New Initiatives for strengthening youth movement to the Centre and States' schemes ;

(g) if so, the details thereof ;

(h) whether these services have been withdrawn by the Authority at present ; and

(i) if so, the time by when these services are likely to be restarted ?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE (SHRI PRITHVIRAJ CHAVAN)

(a) & (b) : The Government has decided to transfer the Sports Infrastructure Schemes to State sector w.e.f 1.4.2005 and accordingly, no allocations have been made in the budget for 2005-2006 for sports infrastructure schemes. All Chief secretaries of States were informed accordingly on 28.2.2005.

(c) & (d) : New sports infrastructure projects have to be considered and funded by the State Governments out of their own resources. However, Planning Commission has recently informed that funds to the extent of the committed liabilities will be provided for completion of ongoing sanctioned projects under the Sports Infrastructure Schemes during the 10th Five Year Plan.

(e) As per information received from Sports Authority of India (SAI), some of the components of the Central Regional Centre of SAI at Bhopal have been completed while others are in different stages of progress. It is expected that construction of all the components would be completed by 2006-07.

(f) to (i) : Sports Authority of India (SAI) had in the past deployed Coaches in the State and District Level Establishments of State Governments and also in certain non-governmental bodies. There was shortage of staff in the context of SAI's expansion of its own training centers. The Staff Inspection Unit of Finance Ministry had also recommended that the attachment of SAI Coaches in District Coaching Centres be withdrawn as Sports being a State Subject, there was no justification for this practice. In the backdrop of preparation required for the Commonwealth Games, the basic mismatch between requirement of SAI's core activities and the availability of coaches had to be addressed immediately. The strategy for transfer takes into account the above concerns and the coaches have been redeployed from District Coaching Centres to State Coaching Centers and SAI's administrative and training units. Except for a few overstaffed states, redeployment has been done in a manner that State Coaching Centers have about the same number of coaches as before, but with greater accountability.